

**From:** Jeremiah Jahn  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

No to Microsoft

I do not believe that the Microsoft Settlement is in the best interest of the citizens of the United States. The settlement is unnecessary, the findings of fact which were upheld support that Microsoft is a monopoly. Why then is a settlement necessary? I find it more and more difficult every day to stand behind the decisions of my country, because of the influence of corporations. Don't let this be another nail in the coffin of democracy.

A corporation is not a citizen. Its decisions do not reflect the needs of the American. They are based on the declared desire to maximize profits. Corporations do not represent citizens. Only a citizen can represent his or her self. Corporations do not reflect the interests of citizens. A citizen declares his interests by casting his or her single vote. If a citizen stands to lose money because of harm done to Microsoft, then he or she needs to call his or representative or send and email to you. It is not a corporation's right to do that for them.

I don't know what the perfect solution to all of this is. I do have a few suggestions though. I believe that Microsoft should be forced to open and keep open all of its file formats and protocols, both internal and external, so that their services and files can be used by competing software. This would give people a huge choice and not affect Microsoft adversely. Second, distribution of Microsoft's software should not be considered part of a solution, but only furthering the problem by expanding their monopoly. Finally, if a fine is issued then it should be substantial enough to put them on a level playing field with their competitors.

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Fascism should more appropriately be called Corporatism  
because it is a merger of State and corporate power. --Benito Mussolini